

within 30 days of the acquisition, initial analysis, and initial interpretation of any geological information and data collected under the permit. Within 30 days following the receipt of the Director's request for notice of any subsequent analysis and interpretation of that geological information or data, the permittee shall submit notice of the availability of that information in writing.

(b) Each submission of geological data, analyzed geological information, and interpreted geological information shall contain, unless otherwise specified by the Director, the following:

(1) An accurate and complete record of all geological (including geochemical) data, analyzed geological information, and interpreted geological information resulting from each operation;

(2) Paleontological reports identifying microscopic fossils by depth, unless washed samples are maintained by the permittee for paleontological determination and are made available upon request for inspection by the Minerals Management Service;

(3) Copies of well logs or charts;

(4) Results and data obtained from formation fluid tests;

(5) Analyses of core or bottom samples or a representative cut or split of the core or bottom sample;

(6) Detailed descriptions of any hydrocarbons or hazardous conditions encountered during operations, including near losses of well-control, abnormal geopressures, and losses of circulation; and

(7) Such other geological data, analyzed geological information, and interpreted geological information as may be specified by the Director.

(c) In the event that geological data, analyzed geological information, or interpreted geological information is transferred from the permittee to a third party, or from a third party to another third party, the transferor shall notify the Director and shall require the receiving party, in writing, to abide by the obligations of the permittee as specified in this section as a condition precedent to the transfer of information or data.

[45 FR 6344, Jan. 25, 1980, as amended at 48 FR 46026, Oct. 11, 1983]

**§251.12 Inspection, selection, and submission of geophysical information and data.**

(a) Each holder of a permit for geophysical exploration activities for mineral resources or scientific research shall notify the Director in writing within 30 days of the acquisition, initial processing, and initial interpretation of any geophysical information and data collected under the permit. Within 30 days following the receipt of the Director's request for notice of any reprocessing or subsequent interpretation of that geophysical information or data, the permittee shall submit notice of the availability of that information in writing.

(b) The Director shall have the right to inspect geophysical data, processed geophysical information, reprocessed geophysical information, or interpreted geophysical information prior to final selection. This inspection shall be performed on the permittee's premises unless the Director requests that the permittee deliver the information or data to the Director for inspection. Such delivery shall be within 30 days following the receipt of the Director's request unless the Director authorizes a later delivery date. At any time prior to final selection, the Director may return any or all geophysical information or data following either its inspection and detailed assessment of its quality, or the establishment of a price to the Government for the processing or reprocessing of the geophysical information or data. If the Director decides to keep all or a portion of the geophysical information and data, the Director shall notify the permittee, in writing, of this decision. If the inspection is done on the permittee's premises, the permittee shall submit the geophysical information or data selected within 30 days following receipt of the Director's request, unless the Director authorizes a longer period of time for delivery. The Director shall have the right to arrange, by contract or otherwise, for the reproduction, without the consent of the permittee, of geophysical data, processed geophysical information, reprocessed geophysical information, and interpreted geophysical information.

(c) In the event that geophysical data, processed geophysical information, reprocessed geophysical information, or interpreted geophysical information is transferred from the permittee to a third party, or from a third party to another third party, the transferor shall notify the Director and shall require the receiving third party, in writing, to abide by the obligations of the permittee as specified in this section as a condition precedent to the transfer of information or data.

(d) Each submission of geophysical data, processed geophysical information, reprocessed geophysical information, and interpreted geophysical information, shall contain, unless otherwise specified by the Director, the following:

(1) An accurate and complete record of each geophysical survey conducted under the permit, including digital navigational data and final location maps of all survey stations;

(2) All seismic data developed under a permit presented in a format and of a quality suitable for processing;

(3) Processed geophysical information derived from seismic data with extraneous signals and interference removed, presented in a format and of a quality suitable for interpretive evaluation, reflecting state-of-the-art processing techniques; and

(4) Other geophysical data, processed geophysical information, reprocessed geophysical information, and interpreted geophysical information obtained from, but not limited to, shallow and deep subbottom profiles, bathymetry, sidescan sonar, gravity and magnetic surveys, and special studies such as refraction and velocity surveys.

[45 FR 6344, Jan. 25, 1980, as amended at 48 FR 46026, Oct. 11, 1983]

#### **§ 251.13 Reimbursement to permittees.**

(a) After the delivery to the Director of geological data, analyzed geological information, interpreted geological information, geophysical data, processed geophysical information, reprocessed geophysical information, and interpreted geophysical information selected by the Director in accordance with §§ 251.11 or 251.12, and upon receipt of a request for reimbursement and a

determination by the Director that the requested reimbursement is proper, the permittee or third party shall be reimbursed for the reasonable costs of reproducing the selected information and data at the permittee's or third party's lowest rate or at the lowest commercial rate established in the area, whichever is less.

(b) After the delivery to the Director of processed or reprocessed geophysical information selected and retained by the Director in accordance with § 251.12(b) and upon receipt of a request for reimbursement and a determination that the requested reimbursement is proper, the permittee or third party shall be reimbursed for the reasonable costs attributable to processing and reprocessing such information (as distinguished from the cost of data acquisition) if the processing or reprocessing was in the form and manner of processing other than that used in the normal conduct of business at the Director's request.

(c) Requests for reimbursement shall identify processing and reprocessing costs separate from acquisition costs.

(d) The permittee or third party shall not be reimbursed for the costs of analyzing geological information or interpreting geological or geophysical information.

[47 FR 25331, June 11, 1982, as amended at 51 FR 17176, May 9, 1986]

#### **§ 251.14 Disclosure of information and data submitted under permits.**

##### **§ 251.14-1 Disclosure of information and data to the public.**

(a) The Director shall make information and data available in accordance with the requirements and subject to the limitations of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the implementing regulations (43 CFR part 2), the requirements of the Act, and the regulations contained in 30 CFR part 250 (Oil and Gas and Sulphur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf), this part, and 30 CFR part 252 (Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Information Program).

(b) Except as specified in this section or in parts 250 and 252 of this chapter, no information or data determined by the Director to be exempt from public